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DRY SHAKEUP BEGINS; TO HIT WET STATES

Eight Agents Dismissed and Director's Resignation Expected.

NO CHARGES ARE MADE

Haynes Begins Conference to Reorganize for Ending of Graft.

LAW OFFICERS ON TRAIL

Department of Justice Tries to Convert Hearsay Evidence Into Proof.

Special Dispatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
New York Herald Bureau,
Washington, D. C., Nov. 21.]

Prohibition Commissioner Haynes began a series of conferences to-day with Senators and dry directors of some so-called wet States as the first step in a general overhauling of the Federal enforcement machinery in many sections of the country. His first conference was with Senator Edge of New Jersey.

Demoralization of Federal enforcement agents in many States as a result of graft paid by bootleggers, rum runners and smugglers has reached such a point that severe action is deemed necessary.

Wet leaders in Congress, aware of the corruption among Federal prohibition agents, are preparing to air the whole situation at an early date and to attack the estimates submitted by the budget bureau for prohibition enforcement expenses during the next fiscal year. Eastern and Southern States have been selected for immediate clean-ups. Many dismissals have already been decided upon. Resignations of State directors and their staffs will be forced. Commissioner Haynes after his conference with Senator Edge announced that eight New Jersey agents had been dropped. The resignation of Director Charles L. Smith of New Jersey is expected soon.

Mr. Haynes said the dismissals were due to "reduction of New Jersey's force to a normal quota." It became known that the real reason was the decision to overhaul the force of dry agents in offices which are under attack by dry leaders for alleged laxity in administration.

So far as is known formal charges of graft have not been lodged against directors in any of the States where cleanups will be staged. The main defense they are alleged to have committed is in failing more closely to supervise the work of their agents to prevent bribery or other irregularities.

An outcome of the program to overturn many of the enforcement offices and inject new blood probably will be special investigations by grand juries. A large amount of evidence already is in the possession of Federal District Attorneys. It may not be possible in all cases where bribery is suspected to establish conviction in court. It is probable that many cases may not be brought to trial because proof of the guilt of the accused is lacking. The Department of Justice is working upon these cases at this time endeavoring to clinch those which are in a doubtful class.

Enforcement officials declared to-day that politics had been in some degree responsible for the "packing" of enforcement offices with dry agents who have fallen under suspicion. But politics was not blamed entirely. The method of selecting agents in some localities without first having established the qualifications of men seeking berths is held also to be partly responsible.

It was shown that in some States where difficulty was encountered in obtaining the services of thoroughly trained men of proved integrity agents

Wily Negro Foils Tippy Holdup Men; Saves Pals

CHARLES F. SULLIVAN of 327 Lafayette avenue and Edward Rice of 541 Lafayette avenue, both of Brooklyn, walked into the coal and ice cellar of Frank Angeleros at 230 Navy street last night and told Angeleros they were revenue officers, forced him into a taxicab and demanded \$10.

"I haven't that much," said Angeleros. "I've only \$1.65." Sullivan and Rice then told the chauffeur to drive the machine to the poolroom of John Reda, 219 Navy street. They pushed Angeleros into the place, and with a revolver forced Reda and Angeleros and thirty negroes to raise their hands and stand against a wall. One negro, Hannibal Joiner, asked to be excused and was allowed to leave.

Joiner, instead of going home as he promised, told Patrolmen Adolph Kosvath and Andrew McKinn, who arrested the two men. The police said the two were very drunk.

had received jobs without examination or endorsement. This method has led to some of the trouble that confronts officials now in attempts to clean up "graft" cases.

In the majority of instances, officials believe it will be difficult to prove bribery. This is due to the cleverness of agents in refusing to reduce such transactions to writing. The practice now generally followed in "baiting" dry law officers is to pay them in gold or gold notes.

Officials believe that hundreds of dry officers have been unable to resist the temptation of accepting bribes ranging from \$10,000 to \$50,000, or even more, when tendered to them in actual cash, for protection or to drop charges against liquor dealers already caught in raids.

In the prosecution of cases now being investigated the Government is dealing largely with hearsay evidence, of the testimony of witnesses whose vindictiveness may serve to offset the weight of charges against the accused in a court of law.

SPEAKER TELLS MERIT OF CIVIL SERVICE ACT

Bradbury Informs Lawyers It Is Best State Has Had.

Speaking under the auspices of the New York County Lawyers Association in the Hotel Astor last night Harry B. Bradbury, discussing the civil practice act, said that "it constitutes the best system of procedure we have ever had in this State."

"It is not so bad as its enemies predicted it would be," he said. "Possibly it is not so good as its advocates hoped it might be. But a year's experience under the act affords additional evidence of the conclusion that there is no such thing as a practice act which is foolproof. Many technicalities and sources of delay have been eliminated and others are being brought into such strong light that doubtless they will receive legislative attention in the near future."

Mr. Bradbury told how many delays have been eliminated where a defense is put in merely for the purpose of delay. He described one such case where, in an action on a policy of theft insurance the holder of the policy sued to recover \$750 for the loss of a set of false teeth while he was traveling in Europe. Against the defense of the insurance company that the false teeth were "personal property" within the meaning of the policy the court ruled that the teeth might be classed as "toilet articles," "scientific apparatus" or "jewelry."

RAIDERS GET WINE AND GIN.

Fifty-three barrels of wine were seized yesterday by dry agents Izzy Elstein and Moe Smith in a raid on a concealed liquor was carried to the Knickerbocker warehouse. Joseph Costello, owner of the place, was arrested and will be arraigned on a charge of violating the Volstead law. Synthetic agents Guttman and Drescher in a raid on the second floor of an apartment house at 4 East Twenty-ninth street.

CASSESE CONVICTED BY JURY OF 'WETS'

Rum Runner Who Worked on Huge Scale Gets Two Years at Atlanta.

ALSO IS FINED \$10,000

Judge Knox Censures Men of Respectability Who Encourage Bootlegging.

A jury, all of the members of which favored the modification of the Volstead act, returned in a half hour in Brooklyn yesterday with a verdict holding Anthony Casseese, tobacco merchant, of Ozone Park, guilty of bootlegging between the United States and the Bahamas Islands. Judge John C. Knox sentenced him to two years at the Atlanta Penitentiary and a fine of \$10,000.

"It is a great temptation to men of your gentility and caliber to engage in a practice of this kind," the Judge said. "Of course there are men of higher station in life who consider their chief appointment one with their bootlegger. It is unfortunate that men of higher respectability place temptation in the way of men like you."

When Judge Knox remarked that men like Casseese were no doubt impelled to engage in bootlegging because of the great gains resulting, George Gordon Battle, representing the defendant, interrupted to say that his client's financial standing had been greatly exaggerated. Judge Knox pointed out that the 12,000 bottles of rye whiskey seized at Bayville, L. I., by State troopers last March would be worth \$30,000 at \$2.50 a bottle. Assistant Federal Attorney Blue said he had come upon two drafts, one for \$40,000, the other for \$50,000, both payable to Casseese and both relating to bootlegging. Judge Knox thanked the jurors, saying any other verdict would have been "a gross miscarriage of justice."

Mrs. Rose Casseese, the prisoner's wife, and three children were in court. Mrs. Edith Stevens, the girl acquitted of the charge of having been Casseese's accomplice, was also present.

Casseese was convicted of bringing 12,000 bottles of rye whiskey from the Bahamas Islands to Bayville, L. I., last March aboard his yacht, the Edith, named after Mrs. Stevens. Sergeant A. P. Broadfield of the State police testified that Casseese offered him \$5,000 on the Bayville dock after the cargo had been seized. "Not for \$5,000,000," Broadfield said he replied.

Mr. Battle declared in his summing up that Casseese was charged with conspiring to bring "good rye whiskey into this country."

BOARD ORDERS ROAD TO CONFER WITH SHOPMEN

Gives Strikers First Recognition in Rail Policy.

CHICAGO, Nov. 21. (Associated Press)—By finding for the shopmen and against the Western Maryland Railway Company on the question of contracting out shop work the Railroad Labor Board to-day for the first time has deviated from its policy that employees striking take themselves from the jurisdiction of the transportation act.

The board construed the contracting out of shop work as an attempt to remove the employees from the application of the act and directed the carrier to take up the matter of reinstatement with the employees.

MAJESTIC LEAVES DRY DOCK.

Biggest Liner, Overhauled, Sails From Here Saturday.

Boston, Nov. 21.—The White Star liner Majestic, biggest steamship in the sea, slipped out of drydock here to-day ship shape again after being scraped and painted, and faster than ever, with propellers of finer pitch.

She swung down the south shore to round Cape Cod, bound for New York, where she is to take on passengers and cargo to sail Saturday for Southampton. She should reach New York to-morrow morning.

BOOTLEG CONNIVING IS DENIED BY POLICE

Walsh and Rohrig Say They Planned Raid on Schooner in Flatlands.

ARRESTS ARE DETAILED

Action by Headquarters Force Said to Have Just Forestalled Brooklynites.

Inspector Thomas F. Walsh, in charge of the Ninth Inspection district in Brooklyn, and Capt. Frank J. Rohrig, in command of the Vandever Park station, were placed on trial before First Deputy Police Commissioner Leach at Brooklyn Police Headquarters yesterday charged with neglect of duty in failing to take necessary precautions to prevent violation of the Mullan-Gage act. The Captain's precinct is embraced in the inspection district over which Inspector Walsh has charge.

A squad of policemen attached to the staff of John Daly, Second Deputy Police Commissioner, raided the schooner Marguerite at the foot of Flatbush avenue, Brooklyn, November 4 last. The party confiscated 846 bottles of whiskey valued at \$7,500. Three men were arrested.

"I have been charged with neglect of duty," Capt. Rohrig exclaimed in his defense, "and with failing to take necessary measures to prevent a boat supposed to be loaded with liquor from coming in my precinct. There is no evidence here to show that I have neglected my duty. The officers called for by the Department testified to going aboard a vessel in midstream."

Police Arrive Too Late.

"My officers have testified that they got to the pier a few minutes after the vessel was seized and were told by the raiding party, 'We just beat you to it.' Undoubtedly, my officers would have got that boat."

"All I can say is that I am a victim of circumstances. I have always done my duty and nobody can point a finger of suspicion at me. I have been suspended and the newspapers have roasted me. My family has been disgraced. I have been disgraced and it hurts."

Answering a question of the Commissioner, Capt. Rohrig said:

"I am not responsible for what transpires in the harbor."

He said he had been in charge of Vandever Park for a year.

"What have you done in that time to stop liquor violation?" asked the Commissioner. "You have been there a year and when the information of this boat came to headquarters the men went down there and seized the boat."

Inspector Walsh produced eighteen witnesses in his defense. He offered a record of 259 arrests and the seizure of a large quantity of liquor since January.

Inspector Walsh said that he made special trips himself along the waterfront to see that precautions were taken and that the men were properly stationed.

Police captains called by him testified to receiving specific instructions about liquor traffic. He urged them to arrest every one they found engaged in violating the law. Plain clothes men testified to being detailed on night duty along Flatlands Bay.

Got Special Instructions.

When the case of Capt. Rohrig was called, four of the raiding party, Lieutenants Thomas C. Dezell and Daniel Mangum and Patrolmen Michael J. Kelly and Arthur Stephen, testified that they watched the schooner going through Mill Basin in Flatlands Bay and saw it tie up alongside a houseboat late in the afternoon. Patrolman Kelly rowed out to prevent the schooner from escaping. The others entered a motorboat, boarded the schooner and found the liquor.

Civilians testified to having been asked by the captain to cooperate in stamping out liquor traffic.

Commissioner Leach said he would reserve decision in both cases. After he has made his findings, they will be passed upon by Police Commissioner Enright. Rohrig is suspended, but the Inspector is not.

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